

## THE CHARITIES OF THE CITY.

Report of the Inspection of a Dozen Institutions—Serious Defects in Some.

The board of police surgeons have inspected the various charitable institutions of the city and submitted their report through Maj. Dye to the commissioners. The German Orphan Asylum was found in rather an improved condition over that of last year. An addition has been erected to the original building, giving a dining room, and the upper story for dormitory purposes, which relieves the overcrowded condition of the main building. Any future appropriation should be for a fire-proof building. The children looked well. No deaths during the year. Number of children, thirty-six.

The Washington Asylum was found in excellent condition. The new hospital building is now being completed. The Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor was not inspected, because the sister in charge, who is a French nun, is an official visit but not to a social one. She stated that the spirit of their order prevented them from receiving state aid for the support of the home or any patient in the home; that it was supported by "begging" and by personal contributions from the general public, but that the building had been put up by money from the government. The desire was to be free from both aid and official inspections, but that any one could visit and would be cheerfully shown through the home at any time. While the visit was a pleasant one and everything was found in excellent condition, the report adds, "we feel it just to the lady in charge to consider the visit unofficial."

In the home for colored women and children, Eighth street extended, there was a good condition. At the children's hospital there were 41 patients. The average daily attendance at the dispensary was 150. The place was clean, neat, and fire extinguishers were found in many places.

The church orphanage sheltered 35 children. Every one was happy and in good health. Since last year an additional building has been erected, and the children are in good condition. At the children's hospital there were 41 patients. The average daily attendance at the dispensary was 150. The place was clean, neat, and fire extinguishers were found in many places.

The Industrial Home School was found in good condition. The inmates were clean and healthy-looking. A capacious water-tank has been erected since the last inspection. At the St. Ann's Infant Asylum the same condition of excellent management was noted as at the last visit. The children appeared in excellent condition, well fed, clean, and cheerful. The rooms were well lighted and well ventilated.

Columbia Hospital was found in good condition. The emergency hospital's condition was improved over that of last year. During the past year 22,000 prescriptions were compounded. Number of patients treated between 1,600 and 1,700. A large number of emergency cases during each month was treated. The management seemed to be satisfactory.

At the reform school everything pertaining to the management and sanitary arrangements was as good as the last year. The inmates were clean and healthy-looking. A capacious water-tank has been erected since the last inspection. At the St. Ann's Infant Asylum the same condition of excellent management was noted as at the last visit. The children appeared in excellent condition, well fed, clean, and cheerful. The rooms were well lighted and well ventilated.

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## NAVAL GUNS AND SOLDIERS.

The Subjects of the Latest Official Reports Made Public.

Commodore Scott, chief of the bureau of ordnance of the navy, in his annual report submitted estimates for the next fiscal year amounting to \$3,488,843. Among the items are batteries of new types for six ships now in service; toward the armament of the navy with modern secondary batteries and small arms; modern armament of two practice ships for training squadrons, establishment of proving and ranging ground, &c., \$1,112,750; and \$250,000 is asked for the purchase of the torpedo boats, purchase of a torpedo boat and of automobile torpedoes; \$207,000 for ordnance outfit of the Miantonomah; \$360,000 for the outfit of the Puritan, Terror, Amphitrite and Monmouth; \$787,770 for the armament of the four new battleships to be built. The present location of the proving ground is regarded as unsuitable and the purchase of a new position is recommended.

Five-inch and two-inch breech-loading high power steel guns have been completed at the Washington yard, and are now at the proving ground. They perform satisfactorily, and several will be mounted on the Miantonomah when she is ready to receive them.

Gen. W. H. Davis, until recently inspector general of the army, in his annual report suggests that some law or regulation be made for the better protection from loss, robbery, or accident of certain assistants to army officers, who frequently have in their possession large sums of money before vouchers for the same can be rendered. The assistant is in the hands of the enemy and supplied to the extent of one-half the broad ration would be beneficial to the health of the troops.

The improvement in target practice with small arms is highly commended. To attain the proficiency required it seems advisable to construct at some of the army batteries properly organized, for a school of theoretical and practical instruction in the use of small arms, and to employ officers, who frequently have in their possession large sums of money before vouchers for the same can be rendered. The assistant is in the hands of the enemy and supplied to the extent of one-half the broad ration would be beneficial to the health of the troops.

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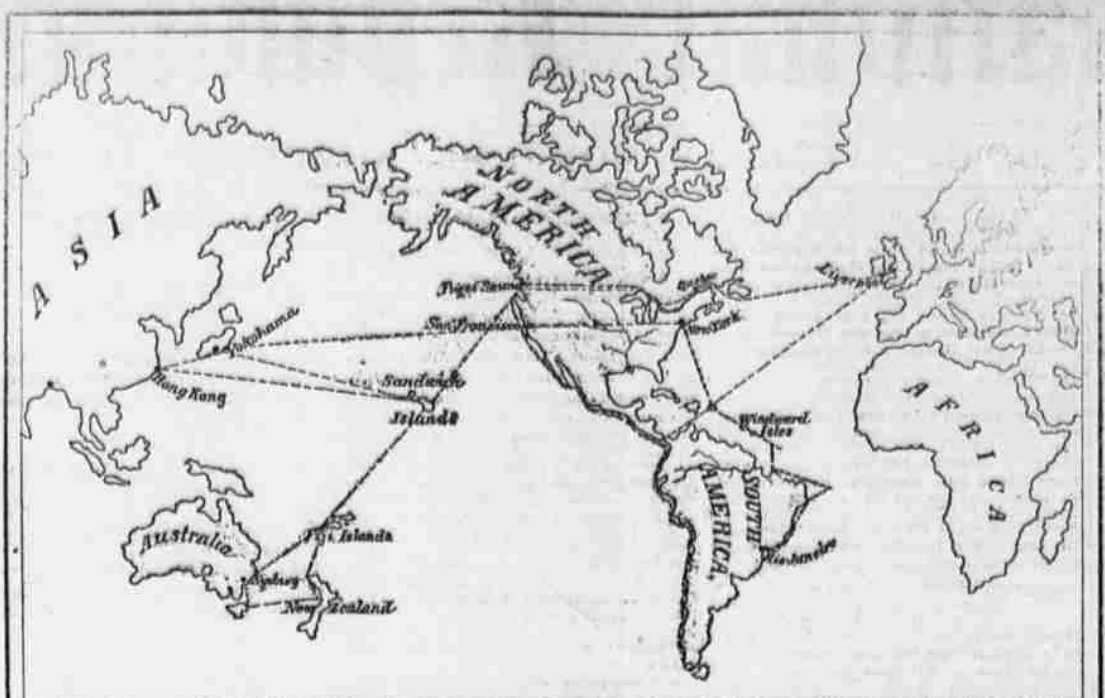
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## AMERICA AND THE WORLD'S TRANSPORTATION.

An Exhibit of the Trunk Lines of Travel and Freight Showing How They Can Be Diverted from This Country by Ill-Advised Action or Want of Action by Those in Authority.

## THE POSTAL SYSTEM OF JAPAN.

A Talk With the Commissioners Sent Out to Examine Foreign Post Offices.

Neither Postmaster General Nomura, of Japan, nor Assistant Postmaster Takahashi are strangers in the United States. Mr. Nomura visited this country in 1872 and Mr. Takahashi received his education here, and was for several years an attaché of the Japanese legation, in all spending several years in this country. Mr. Nomura has the reputation among his countrymen of being a very shrewd man. He was for some years governor of Kanagawa, and was promoted to be postmaster general four years ago and holds his office for an indefinite term.

Mr. Takahashi, after returning to Japan in 1870, was placed in charge of the Yokohama postoffice, and after a successful career was promoted to be deputy postmaster general. The principal mission of these representatives of the Japanese postal system is to attend the international postal congress at Lisbon last February, after which they made a thorough examination of the German postal system. They only stayed in London five days, and their short stay in this country will preclude any extensive examination of our postal system.

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## DESERIERS HIS HIDE TO GET DRUNK.

Novel Experience of a Bonded and Loosed Soldier.

"I don't know," said the young man wearily, as he leaned over the bar, and watched the attendant make a cocktail, "but I had to experience again what I did last night I would go mad."

"How's that?" asked the bartender, and the three friends who the young man had invited to "have one with him."

"Well," said the troubled citizen, getting outside of his liquor, "in the first place I was married last night and had enough to go on a tour, do New York and Boston—the world—and business will last and all the rest of it, you know. But I didn't and that's what's bothering me. I was married to the sweetest little girl in the world, and of course had a brilliant wedding. Her father insisted on doing the thing in style, and after we had been made a good dinner, we went to the ball. I was fed for as at the house. All my friends and their friends were there, and somehow everybody forgot to leave. Our baggage was sent down, and I suppose it is in New York now. Fact was, you know, everybody touched the bottle a little too often."

"Guess it was a little too often," remarked one of the men, who had been married last night, "but the old man had retired, and I have an indistinct recollection of the bride calling me a brute and asking what was in for her. The boys persuaded me and my new father-in-law to go out, and—my, my, another cocktail—let you guess where I woke up this morning."

"Nobody could guess," so the young gentleman, leaning back in his chair, and emphasizing, "In the station house. I was in a cell when I woke up this morning, and my father-in-law was there. The doorman came to tell me to get up, and I went to the court, but he told me if I would consent to leave \$5 collateral I could go. I left the \$5, and asked what was in for her. The boys persuaded me and my new father-in-law to go out, and—my, my, another cocktail—let you guess where I woke up this morning."

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## THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK.

The monthly report of the agricultural department for the month ending Nov. 10 shows the following facts:

The buckwheat crop will be large—the average yield exceeding fourteen bushels per acre, notwithstanding the fact that in a number of western and northwestern states this grain has suffered considerably from the August and September frosts. In the south the crop is good. In Virginia, Minnesota the injury is serious. The same obtains also in several sections of Ohio, Indiana, Kansas, and Dakota. In sections of West Virginia this crop has suffered from grasshoppers.

In some localities in the states, along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts from Maryland to Alabama, inclusive, this crop has recently suffered from an excess of rain. From Georgia, especially, complaints are numerous upon this point, stating that heavy rains have rotted the crop and that the quality is poor. Florida also reports some loss from the same cause. In Tennessee the crop has suffered from the effect of fall drouth. In Texas the crop will be comparatively small and of poor quality.

The tobacco yield is generally an average one. The Connecticut valley yields about 1,400 pounds per acre; New York averages 1,250; and Pennsylvania 1,300 pounds per acre. The heavy tonnage of the middle belt always makes a much lower average than the cigar varieties. The Kentucky average is 700 pounds; Virginia, 650 pounds; Maryland, 625 pounds.

The damage from rot continues to be a subject of complaint in all the noted potato growing sections, and which, other than situation, want of drainage, or character of soil were not adapted to withstand the effects of excessive rainfall, the crop has suffered from rot. The damage has been reduced to a minimum, but the loss is not inappreciable. In some sections early potatoes matured before the rain, and the loss was not so great. In some sections the loss was so great that the crop was a total failure.

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